

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder having a composition represented by the general formula ABO_3 , wherein A is at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ba, Ca, Sr and Mg, and B is at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ti and Zr, the method comprising

providing a mixture of a preformed carbonate powder of A having an organic polymer adsorbed thereon and an oxide powder of B, and

calcining the mixture.

2. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 1, further comprising mixing the carbonate powder and the oxide powder of B.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 2, further comprising allowing a carbonate powder of A to adsorb an organic polymer compound to produce the organic carbonate powder containing the adsorbed ~~organic~~ polymer compound.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 3, wherein the procedure for allowing the carbonate powder of A to adsorb the organic polymer compound comprises:

preparing a slurry of the carbonate powder of A dispersed in a solution containing the organic polymer compound; and

removing a solvent contained in the slurry to produce the organic carbonate powder containing the organic polymer compound adsorbed onto the surface of the carbonate powder.

5. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 4, wherein the organic polymer compound has a molecular weight in the range of about 1,000 to 100,000.

6. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 5, wherein the carbonate powder is a BaCO_3 powder with a specific surface area of about $10 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or more.

7. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 6, wherein the amount of the organic polymer compound adsorbed is in the range of about 0.1% to 5% by weight of the amount of the carbonate powder.

8. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 7, wherein the amount of the organic polymer compound adsorbed is in the range of about 0.3% to 2% by weight of the amount of the carbonate powder.

9. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 1, wherein the organic polymer compound has a molecular weight in the range of about 1,000 to 100,000.

10. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonate powder is a BaCO_3 powder with a specific surface area of about $10 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or more.

11. (Original) A method for making a raw dielectric ceramic powder according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of the organic polymer compound adsorbed is in the range of about 0.1% to 5% by weight of the amount of the carbonate powder.

12. (Original) A method for making a dielectric ceramic comprising :

effecting the method of Claim 1;
adding binder and solvent to the raw dielectric ceramic powder to
prepare a ceramic slurry;
molding the ceramic slurry to form a green dielectric ceramic compact;
and
firing the green dielectric ceramic compact.

13. (Original) A method for fabricating a monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising :

effecting the method of Claim 1;
adding binder and solvent to the raw dielectric ceramic powder to
prepare a ceramic slurry;
forming a green ceramic laminate comprising a plurality of green
ceramic layers comprising the ceramic slurry and internal electrodes extending along
the predetermined interfaces of the ceramic layers; and
firing the green ceramic laminate.

14. (Original) A dielectric ceramic comprising a fired raw dielectric ceramic
powder produced by the method according to Claim 1 .

15. (Original) A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising a plurality of dielectric ceramic layers and a
plurality of internal electrodes extending along predetermined interfaces between
dielectric ceramic layers; and
external electrodes disposed on the exterior surface of the laminate so
as to be electrically connected to the predetermined internal electrodes,
wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic
according to Claim 14.

16. (Original) A dielectric ceramic comprising a fired raw dielectric ceramic
powder produced by the method according to Claim 8 .

17. (Original) A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising a plurality of dielectric ceramic layers and a plurality of internal electrodes extending along predetermined interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers;
and
external electrodes disposed on the exterior surface of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to the predetermined internal electrodes,

wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 16.

18. (Original) A carbonate powder of at least one of Ba, Ca, Sr, and Mg, with a specific surface area of about $10 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or more, and having an organic polymer compound having a molecular weight in the range of about 1,000 to 100,000 adsorbed onto the surface thereof, wherein the amount of the organic polymer compound adsorbed is about 0.1% to 5% by weight of the amount of the carbonate powder.

19. (Original) A carbonate powder according to Claim 18, wherein the specific surface area is about 10 to $40 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or more, and wherein the amount of the organic polymer compound adsorbed is about 0.3% to 5% by weight of the amount of the carbonate powder.

20. (Original) A carbonate powder according to Claim 18, wherein A comprises Ba and B comprises Ti.